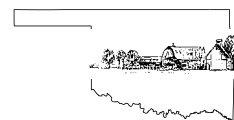




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March 14, 2005

A combined contribution with
-Cooperative Extension Service
-USDA Farm Service Agency
-The Oklahoma Mesonet

Warm Temperatures Promote Wheat Growth

March 13 - Warm temperatures across the state allowed producers to continue removing cattle off wheat pasture. Seedbed preparation activities for summer crops also got underway although strong wind conditions somewhat slowed activities. The rains during the last few months kept soil moisture at mostly adequate to surplus levels last week even though most districts had little to no rainfall. Temperatures averaged in the lower 50's throughout the state. There were 5.7 days suitable for field work.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| This Week | 1 | 11 | 83 | 5 |
| Last Week | 0 | 3 | 71 | 26 |
| Last Year | 0 | 3 | 85 | 12 |

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| This Week | 1 | 7 | 85 | 7 |
| Last Week | 1 | 3 | 81 | 15 |
| Last Year | 5 | 18 | 71 | 6 |

Small Grains: Wheat, rye and oat conditions were rated as mostly good. Wheat jointing reached 18 percent which was below both last year and the five-year average. Oats planted, at 80 percent, was up from both last year and the five-year average of 75 percent and 76 percent, respectively. Crop insect activity was mostly light, but green bugs were reported in wheat in some areas.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending March 13, 2005

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Wheat | 1 | 2 | 22 | 58 | 17 |
| Rye | 0 | 1 | 11 | 72 | 16 |
| Oats | 0 | 4 | 33 | 59 | 4 |

Pasture and Range: Pasture and range conditions ranged from mostly good to fair with conditions rated as 3 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 27 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. The pastures were drying nicely with the warmer weather however, the strong winds during the week were also causing a fire hazard in some areas as conditions became too dry.

Livestock: Livestock were rated mostly good. Some respondents reported that the cattle coming off wheat pasture were lighter than normal. The death loss of cattle continues to be light. Hay supplies were mostly average. Feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$110.11 per cwt and feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$103.92 per cwt.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending March 13, 2005

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Livestock | 0 | 2 | 21 | 68 | 9 |
| Pasture & Range | 3 | 9 | 27 | 53 | 8 |

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS

Week Ending March 13, 2005

| Item | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 - Yr Avg. | Item | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 - Yr Avg. |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Wheat - | | | | | Sorghum | | | | |
| Jointing | 18 | N/A | 23 | 22 | Seedbed Prepared | 10 | N/A | 8 | 9 |
| Oats - | | | | | Soybeans | | | | |
| Planted | 80 | N/A | 75 | 76 | Seedbed Prepared | 5 | N/A | 13 | 14 |
| Corn - | | | | | Peanuts | | | | |
| Seedbed Prepared | 30 | N/A | 21 | 21 | Seedbed Prepared | 8 | N/A | 14 | 9 |

Weather for Week Ending March 13, 2005 - Temperatures ranged from 20 degrees at Boise City on Tuesday, March 8th to 90 degrees at Altus on Saturday, March 12th. Precipitation averaged 0.00 inches in six of the nine districts to 0.07 inches in East Central district. Soil temperatures averaged 44 degrees at Hooker on Tuesday, March 8th, and at Eufaula on Sunday, March 13th, to 62 degrees at Durant on Saturday, March 12th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA

Week Ending March 13, 2005

| Districts | Temperature | | | Precipitation | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-----|---------|---------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| | High | Low | Average | This Week | September 1, 2004 to March 13, 2005 | | |
| | | | | | Total | Departure from Normal | Percent of Normal |
| | Degrees | | | Inches | | | |
| Panhandle | 64 | 31 | 48 | 0.00 | 9.90 | +2.93 | 142 |
| West Central | 66 | 36 | 51 | 0.00 | 14.24 | +2.76 | 124 |
| Southwest | 68 | 37 | 53 | 0.00 | 15.47 | +2.65 | 121 |
| North Central | 64 | 34 | 49 | 0.00 | 13.89 | +1.44 | 112 |
| Central | 65 | 36 | 52 | 0.00 | 17.15 | - 0.03 | 100 |
| South Central | 69 | 39 | 54 | 0.00 | 21.04 | +1.22 | 106 |
| Northeast | 61 | 34 | 49 | 0.05 | 18.85 | - 0.55 | 97 |
| East Central | 63 | 37 | 51 | 0.07 | 23.15 | +0.36 | 102 |
| Southeast | 66 | 38 | 53 | 0.03 | 24.76 | - 1.74 | 93 |

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